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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/773,409 Confirmation No. 6612
Applicant : Katsuhiro HIEJIMA
Filed : February 9, 2004
TC/A.U. : 3763
Examiner : Christopher Koharski
Dkt. No. : NPR-152
Cust. No. : 20374

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 4, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 7, 2006.

An election of species is required between:

- (A) Figures 1 to 9, and
- (B) Figures 10 to 16.

Applicants elect Group (A), Figures 1 to 9, as the species. This election is made without traverse. Claims 1 to 10, 20, 22 and 24 are believed to read on the elected species.

The foregoing is believed to be a complete and proper response to the Office Action dated September 7, 2006, and is believed to

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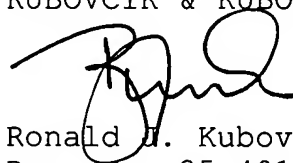
place this application in condition for allowance. If, however, minor issues remain that can be resolved by means of a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicant hereby petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KUBOVCIK



Ronald J. Kubovcik
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